

# ***MARIETTA POLICE DEPARTMENT***

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*Policing With a Vision*

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\*\*\*\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\*\*\*

**INCIDENT: 2011 Holiday Season Crime Prevention Plan**

**DATE: November 22, 2011**

The Marietta Police Department is taking steps to help citizens have a safer holiday season with the 2011 Holiday Season Crime Prevention Plan. The plan is designed to provide more of a police presence in residential communities and areas with a high shopping population. A variety of methods and tactics will be deployed to these areas, but the best deterrence to crime comes from an alert public.

The 2011 Holiday Enforcement Plan consists of a variety of safety measures including both hidden surveillance and visible police presence. The Skywatch surveillance system will be deployed in a variety of our business areas along with T-3 patrols. The department will increase patrols in shopping areas, residential communities and at financial institutions. Safety checkpoints and intensive DUI enforcement will also be increased during this holiday season.

There are many things that you can do to help ensure the safety of yourself and your belongings. While shopping, don't become distracted and always be aware of your surroundings. If you see something or someone suspicious call the police immediately to report it. You may remain anonymous if you wish. Never leave any valuables in plain sight in your vehicle. Lock all of your belongings in your trunk or hide them out of site and always take your keys with you. If you will be traveling away from your home this holiday season, call the Marietta Police Department and place your home on a patrol list and we will be more than happy to check on your home while you are away.

The Marietta Fire Department would like to encourage citizens to practice fire safety during the winter holidays. Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment. Please remember to stay in the kitchen and set timers when you are cooking. Holiday decorations are another area where practicing fire safety is a must. Be very careful not to overload electrical outlets, keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn, choose a fresh cut Christmas tree and keep it watered. Make sure your smoke detector is working properly by

pushing the test button. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season. For more fire safety tips, visit [www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education).

The Marietta Police and Fire Departments wishes everyone a safe and joyous holiday season.

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